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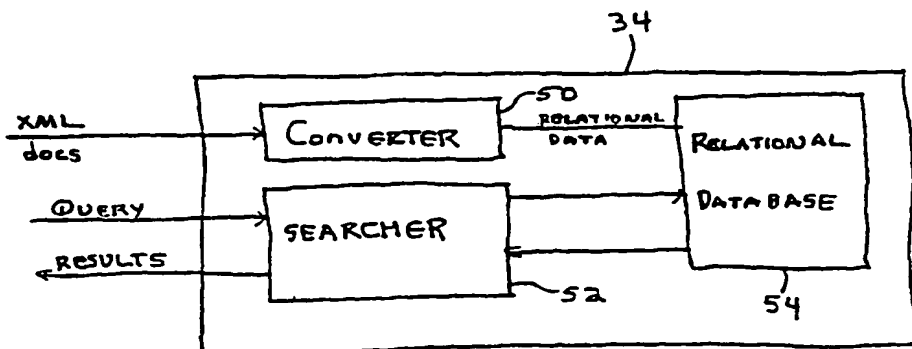
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10 January 2002

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR THE STORAGE, INDEXING AND RETRIEVAL OF XML DOCUMENTS USING RELATIONAL DATABASES**



(57) Abstract: A system (34) and method for assigning attributes to XML documents to facilitate their storage and retrieval in relational databases (54). A converter (50) accepts XML documents, processes them and outputs relational data about the XML documents which is stored in the relational database (54). A searcher (52) using SQL query engines performs queries to retrieve the documents and sends the results of the query in XML form to the users.

WO 01/42881 A3

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US00/42665

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 17/30

US CL : 707/3, 101

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
U.S. : 707/3, 101, 10, 102, 103, 104

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
EAST, IEL

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A, P	US 6,154,738 A (CALL) 28 November 2000 (28.11.2000), ALL.	1-23
A, P	US 6,125,391 A (MELTZER et al) 26 September 2000 (26.09.2000), ALL.	1-23

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

\*A\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

02 May 2001 (02.05.2001)

Date of mailing of the international search report

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US00/42665

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claim Nos.: 24 and 25  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Claims 24, 25 recite pure descriptive non-functional subject matter.
2. ☐ Claim Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to  
such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claim Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule  
6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all  
searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite  
payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search  
report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report  
is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐  
☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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